

Natural Resources Restoration Group

Co-chairperson: Jim McKenna

Co-chairperson: Debbie Deetz Silva

Treasurer: Bob Wyatt

December 20, 2007

Portland Harbor Natural Resource Trustee Council
c/o Billy Barquin
101 SW Main Street, Suite 1800
Portland, OR 97204-3226

Re: Lamprey Ammocoete Toxicology Study

Dear Trustees:

As you know, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) transmitted to the Lower Willamette Group (LWG) your proposal requesting additional studies involving the toxicology of Willamette River sediments on ammocoetes of the Pacific Lamprey. The LWG respectfully declined to implement the proposal as beyond the scope of work necessary to complete the remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. The LWG also expressed some concerns about the study design and the time that it would take to complete it, but suggested that some further work may be appropriately addressed in other venues.

The Natural Resources Restoration Group (NRRG) would like to offer our assistance to the Trustees in the acquisition of information related to ammocoetes, through what we believe would be a scientifically sound approach. Specifically, the NRRG proposes providing seed money to a research institution that would develop a research plan and carry out the proposed study. We believe that if the NRRG provided a seed grant (we are assuming \$50,000 may be sufficient) to either the Portland State University (Department of Environmental Resources joint PhD program with Biology) or to Oregon State University's Fisheries program, they would be able to use that funding to attract any additional project funding required to carry out the proposed research.

The Trustees' proposed testing, if it were to be performed, would constitute original research that would be more appropriately conducted at a research-based university that offers doctorate programs in environmental resources and biology or fisheries. Either the Portland State University (Department of Environmental Resources joint PhD program with Biology) or Oregon State University's Fisheries program could perform this research according to scientific protocol. As this is original research, the National Science Foundation (NSF) would be an appropriate source of project funding, and we understand that it would be possible for one of

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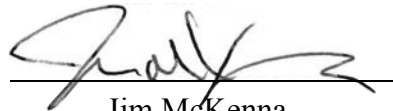
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these institutions to use an NRRG grant to leverage additional funding from NSF. NRRG group members could join with the local community to assist the effort by offering their support for efforts to obtain matching NSF funds.

We believe that this proposed research effort by qualified researchers at a local university would actually produce a better designed, more credible study that would go further in meeting the Trustees' needs than would a study carried out by a Portland Harbor-focused group. If you are interested, we would be very pleased to work with you to help bring this about.

The NRRG looks forward to discussing this suggestion with the Trustees as part of our mutual efforts to foster a cooperative relationship between the NRRG and the Trustees. We are available to meet with you to discuss this proposal at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jim McKenna', written over a horizontal line.

Jim McKenna
NRRG co-chair

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Debbie Deetz Silva', written over a horizontal line.

Debbie Deetz Silva
NRRG co-chair